(d) if not, the reasons therefor and by when such a decision expected to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) With a view to facilitate speedy trial of criminal cases and to give justice to the innocents, the Code of Criminal Procedure has been amended by an Act of Parliament called Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 which, *inter alia,* contains folllowing provisions:

i) The powers of First Class and Second Class Magistrates to impose fines have been enhanced;

ii) Use of modern and scientific techniques have been allwoed in examination of the accused;

iii) Magistrates have been empowered to direct an accused to subject himself to identification by any person;

iv) Magisterial inquiry has been made mandatory in case of death or rape during custody;

v) Magistrates have been empowered to order a person to give specimen signatures or handwriting;

vi) No person can be detained during the period of investigation, inquiry or trial for more than the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the said offence udner than law.

Further, a provision relatiang to Plea-Bargaining has been made operative. Through Plea-Bargaining, the criminal cases can be finalized in a short time while at the time; the victims can be compensated by the accused.

Steel manufacturers allotted iron-ore mines

2483. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) how many new steel manufacturers have got iron-mines allotted in Jharkhand, during the last five years; and

(b) the names of the corporate sectors, land allotted in acres, period of lease and any social sector obligations for the area and displaced people of the said land allocation?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) (a) and (b) The details of proposals received from State Government of Jharkhand for grant of mining lease for iron ore in which prior approval of Ministry of Mines has been conveyed in the last five years (till 31/03/2006) is given below. No separate data regarding the applicants who are steel manufacturers is maintained at Government of India level.

Sl.No.	Name of applicant	Area	Period of lease
1.	Shri Bechan Singh	106.59 acres	20 years
2.	M/s Usha Martin Industries Ltd.	383.20 acres	20 years
3.	M/s Balaji Industrial Products Ltd.	420.95 acres	20 years
4.	M/s Niranjan Hi-Tech Ltd.	356.18 acres	20 years
5.	M/s A.M.L. Steel & Power Ltd.	383.54 acres	20 years
6.	M/s Prasad Group Resources Pvt. Ltd.	275.23 acres	20 years

No specific information is available regarding displacement of people in above cases. However, the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Families - 2003 (NPRR-2003) lays down minimum provisions to be given to displaced/ousted people, and is applicable to projects displacing 500 families or more *en masse* in plain areas or 250 families or more in hilly areas, Desert Development Programme (DDP) Blocks and areas mentioned in Scheduled V and VI of the Constitution of India.

Empowerment of minorities in the country

2484. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Human Development Report, 2004 has emphasized the need for empowerment of minorities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and